

Session 14-10 a Regular Meeting of the Vessel Haul-Out Task Force was called to order by Chair Howard at 3:30 p.m. on August 8, 2014 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: Carroll, Hawkins, Howard, Lewis, Pate, Stockburger

ABSENT: Pitzman (excused)

STAFF: Deputy City Clerk Jacobsen

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Chair Howard called for a motion to approve the agenda.

LEWIS/STOCKBURGER SO MOVED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Carl Smith, Director of Sales and Marketing for Foss Maritime in Seattle, commented that Foss expressed potential interest in being an operator for the facility. He said in the report from the task force it appears they decided the right approach is something similar to Wrangell or Kodiak's operation. He asked if the information regarding the market research they reference in the report is available for review.

Harbormaster Hawkins pointed out that no final decisions have been made at this point and he could provide the information on the research. Chair Howard reviewed the groups schedule of reporting to the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission and then to Council and that they plan to bring options to the Council for their consideration.

### **RECONSIDERATION**

#### **APPROVAL OF SYNOPSIS**

A. July 25, 2014 Meeting Synopsis

Chair Howard called for a motion to approve the synopsis.

HAWKINS/ LEWIS SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

## **VISITORS**

## **STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS**

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

- A. Review of Draft Report to City Council and Power Point presentation to Port & Harbor Advisory Commission and City Council

The group reviewed the concepts in the rough draft power point. Discussion included:

- Including private or cooperative options as an alternative. If the city spends the money for the facility, it will come from taxes or selling bonds. While this will be a benefit to the community, there will be people who don't feel they will benefit from it.
- Cooperative benefits-
  - Shared expenses.
  - City works with private enterprise and delineates management and allocation of cost and revenues.
  - Participants could include people currently involved in haul out work, like Mr. Brock; also barge companies and others who would want to participate and invest in it.
  - A travel lift won't pay for itself and other services coming in and working together will bring in other monies to make this financially feasible.
- Putting out an RFP for this service would entail listing options and priorities for the use and what the City plans to offer, and then see what comes in with the proposals.
- Whether the facility is a co-op, private, or city run, it has to incorporate the marine trade services in Homer.
- Recommendations should fall in line with what is in the draft report to Council, packet page 8 starting on line 35.

Relating to the recommendations in the report to Council it was suggested the \$105,000 for the design, engineering, and permitting come from the City. The payback will come in the form of sales tax from the work being done. It shows that it's City and Harbor bringing this forward. Regarding the phase II funding at \$500,000, it's a small amount and could be requested from the legislature, and the city could provide the 25% matching funds.

The reports will include recommendation for an RFP.

The goal with the report and power point will be to educate and get buy in at least to the CIP upgrade, approval of the money. The Council can also give direction whether this group should continue and prepare a new resolution with directives.

They briefly touched on the presentation at the Port and Harbor Commission meeting and that it should also include an action item so they can make recommendations if they choose to.

The task force agreed to meet at 3:45 on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. Resolution 14-015, Appointing the Vessel Haul-out Task Force to Review and Make Recommendations on a Large Vessel Haul-Out and Repair Facility at the Port
- B. Updated CIP requests
- C. Aerial Picture of Tr. 1-A and the Fishing Lagoon
- D. Draft Business Performa
- E. Task Force Meeting Schedule

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

None

### **COMMENTS OF CITY STAFF**

None

### **COMMENTS OF THE TASK FORCE**

Mr. Stockburger thinks it's hard to know for sure which way this will go, as we saw last spring. We didn't think it was going anywhere, and then all of a sudden it took off. If there is money to be made, someone will figure out how to do it.

Mr. Lewis thinks the two main things they need to get done are focus on servicing our fleet and doing it with our people. Other than that we should be open to options that will make it happen.

Mr. Hawkins added that we aren't opposed to bringing in new vessels as well. The goal is to service the fleet that can't be hauled in Homer and welcome new business. He said he is getting inquiries about hauling out in the fall.

Mr. Carroll expressed his concern that they haven't taken or solicited much input from industry.

Mr. Pate agrees with the comments tonight. He agrees with the core reason we are here and at the same time, he hopes they don't limit consideration of the scope of what this can become for the city. He thinks there is a distinct potential economic driver for the entire community. If we can do it without it adversely impacting the tax payers, he doesn't think anyone can say no.

VESSEL HAUL OUT TASK FORCE  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 8, 2014

Chair Howard thanked everyone for their work today. In her years of experience in council chambers, we hold these public meetings, this group has had eleven, and when the gavel goes down and the vote comes in, everyone comes out of the woodwork come all the people who say, "I just heard about this". Perhaps they could have advertised it better. In her mind its government's job is to make the public's input to be all it can be so private industry can be be all they can be.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Task Force the meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 5, 2014 at 3:45 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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MELISSA JACOBSEN, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_